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Security Council

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Letter dated 18 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 16 July 2002 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the violations of the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) that were committed by United States and British warplanes based in Kuwait in the period from 1 to 28 June 2002 and also enclosing a table showing these violations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdul Munim **Al-Kadhe**
Chargé d'affaires

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Annex to the letter dated 18 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to our letter of 12 June 2002 (S/2002/661, annex), I should like to inform you that in the period from 1 to 28 June 2002 United States and British warplanes flying from bases in Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and by way of the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) committed 723 violations of our international boundaries. As shown in the table appended to this letter, the relevant Iraqi agencies have determined that the violations committed were as follows:

1. Armed aerial activity by the United States and the United Kingdom, violating our international boundaries from Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and by way of the demilitarized zone, comprised 723 armed sorties in the Dhi Qar, Muthanna, Basrah, Maysan, Qadisiyah, Karbala' and Najaf governorates.

2. Our technical systems identified the aircraft violating Iraq's airspace on a daily basis as American F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and F-18s and British Tornadoes.

3. An AWACS aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace provided support to all of the United States and British aircraft that carried out armed and hostile sorties, violating Iraq's airspace by way of the demilitarized zone.

4. Between 1 and 28 June 2002, a total of three remotely piloted aircraft violated Iraq's airspace from United States and British bases in Kuwait, from Kuwait's airspace and territorial waters and by way of the demilitarized zone.

All of the violations in question were committed by way of the demilitarized zone in which UNIKOM is stationed. One of UNIKOM's primary responsibilities is to monitor such hostile military operations and to report them and endeavour to halt them immediately.

One of the primary tasks of UNIKOM is to record such violations accurately, determining the type and nationality of the aircraft. We therefore urge the United Nations Secretariat to provide UNIKOM with systems capable of detecting all of the violations so that it can notify the Security Council to take the necessary measures to halt these infringements forthwith. In another respect, even if UNIKOM did not have the systems needed to identify the type and nationality of these aircraft, the fact that they come from the direction of Kuwait confirms that they are those of the United States and the United Kingdom. Your report on UNIKOM for the period from 28 March to 4 September 2001 (S/2001/913) indicates as much, and paragraph 6 states that "[it should be noted] that the mission's inability to identify the States responsible for conducting such flights is in no way to be understood as condoning them". You also state in the report that the United States and the United Kingdom have acknowledged that they are continuing to enforce a no-flight zone in southern Iraq.

I accordingly urge you once more to instruct UNIKOM to perform its duties in full, to report these violations to the Security Council through you as soon as they occur and to specify the number and type of United States and British warplanes that violate the demilitarized zone, contravene the Security Council resolutions establishing the zone and commit aggression against Iraq, given that this constitutes

State terrorism and wanton aggression against Iraq and against its people, its sovereignty and its territorial integrity, as well as against United Nations peacekeeping operations. I also ask you to alert the Security Council to its responsibility to halt this aggression and ensure that its perpetrators are held fully accountable for it under international law.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure

Hostile aerial activity violating Iraq's international boundaries from Kuwait and by way of the demilitarized zone, 1-28 June 2002

Date	From	Time	Type	Armed sorties	Altitude (metres)	Speed (km/h)	Areas overflown
1-28 June	Kuwait	0720-1530	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, drone	723, including 3 drones	7,500-11,500	180-780	Basrah, Busayyah, Salman, Artawi, Lasaf, Qurnah, Ashbajah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Nukhayb, Qal`at Salih, Umm Qasr, Amarah, Samawah, Rumaythah, Abyad, Karbala', Ukhaydir, Nu`maniyah, Najaf, Hayy